

CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising:
~~maintaining, at an access point of a network, collecting statistical data for a plurality of user terminals, wherein the user terminals are capable of accessing the network by use of the access point, and wherein the statistical data comprises information about data received at the access point provided from a server accessible via the network to the to the plurality of user terminals;~~
providing to the server ~~the information maintained at the access point~~ the statistical data;
~~receiving from the server a payment for~~ at the server, determining a payment associated with an account associated with an operator of the access point, wherein the determining is based, at least in part, on the provided statistical data.
2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the access point is operated by a network service provider.
3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the access point is comprises a wireless access point (WAP).
4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein ~~receiving from the server a payment for~~ determining a payment to provide to an account associated with an operator of the access point comprises ~~receiving from the server~~ determining a payment for an account associated with an
5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the WAP is comprises a base station.
6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein ~~receiving from the server a payment for~~ determining a payment to provide to an account associated with an operator of the access point comprises ~~receiving from the server~~ determining a payment for an account associated with an operator of the base station.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the base station is comprises an a substantially IEEE standard 802.11 compliant base station.
8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the network is comprises a wireless local area network (WLAN).
9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the network ~~is~~ comprises an internetwork.
10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the internetwork ~~is a worldwide network of interconnected networks commonly known as~~ comprises the Internet.
11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~wherein maintaining, at an access point of a network information about data received at the access point from a server accessible via the network comprises maintaining, at an access point of a network,~~ information about data provided from a server to the to the plurality of user terminals comprises information about data packets received at the access point from a server accessible via the network and forwarded by the access point to at least one wireless user terminal.
12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the wireless user terminal is comprises a cellular telephone.
13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the wireless user terminal is comprises a laptop computer.
14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the wireless user terminal is comprises a personal digital assistant.
15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the wireless user terminal ~~is~~ comprises a mobile telephone.

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the wireless user terminal is comprises a voice over internet protocol mobile telephone.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the wireless user terminal is comprises a two way pager.

18. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the wireless user terminal is comprises a wireless modulator/demodulator coupled to an electronic computing device.

19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the server is comprises operated by a content service provider.

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the information about data ~~received at access point from a server accessible via the network provided from a server to the to~~ the plurality of user terminals comprises a count of bytes of data received at the access point from the server.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the information about data packets received at the access point from a server accessible via the network and forwarded by the access point to at least one wireless user terminal comprises a count of bytes of data received at the access point from the server accessible via the network and forwarded by the access point to the wireless user terminal.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the count of bytes of data received at the access point from the server accessible via the network and forwarded by the access point to the wireless user terminal comprises a count of bytes of data received at the access point from the server accessible via the network and forwarded by the access point using a Media Access Control address associated with the wireless user terminal.

23. (New) A system, comprising:

a network access point capable of collecting statistical data for a plurality of user terminals, wherein the user terminals are capable of accessing the network by use of the access point, and wherein the statistical data comprises information about data provided from a server to the to the plurality of user terminals;

a server capable of determining a payment associated with an account associated with an operator of the access point, wherein the determining is based, at least in part, on the provided statistical data.

24. (New) The system of claim 23, wherein the access point is operated by a network service provider.

25. (New) The system of claim 23, wherein the access point comprises a wireless access

26. (New) The system of claim 25, wherein determining a payment to provide to an account associated with an operator of the access point comprises determining a payment for an account associated with an operator of the WAR

27. (New) The system of claim 25, wherein the WAP comprises a base station.

28. (New) The system of claim 27, wherein determining a payment to provide to an account associated with an operator of the access point comprises determining a payment for an account associated with an operator of the base station.

29. (New) The system of claim 27, wherein the base station comprises a substantially IEEE standard 802.11 compliant base station.

30. (New) The system of claim 23, wherein the network comprises a wireless local area network (WLAN).

31. (New) The system of claim 23, wherein the network comprises an internetwork.

32. (New) The system of claim 23, wherein information about data provided from a server to the to the plurality of user terminals comprises information about data packets received at the access point from a server accessible via the network and forwarded by the access point to at least one wireless user terminal.

33. (New) The system of claim 23, wherein the information about data provided from a server to the to the plurality of user terminals comprises a count of bytes of data received at the access point from the server.

34. (New) The system of claim 23, wherein the information about data packets received at the access point from a server accessible via the network and forwarded by the access point to at least one wireless user terminal comprises a count of bytes of data received at the access point from the server accessible via the network and forwarded by the access point to the wireless user terminal.

35. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the count of bytes of data received at the access point from the server accessible via the network and forwarded by the access point to the wireless user terminal comprises a count of bytes of data received at the access point from the server accessible via the network and forwarded by the access point using a Media Access Control address associated with the wireless user terminal.

36. (New) An article comprising: a storage medium having stored thereon instructions that if executed by a computing device performs a method as follows:

at an access point of a network, collecting statistical data for a plurality of user terminals, wherein the user terminals are capable of accessing the network by use of the access point, and wherein the statistical data comprises information about data provided from a server to the to the plurality of user terminals;

providing to the server the statistical data;

at the server, determining a payment associated with an account associated with an operator of the access point, wherein the determining is based, at least in part, on the provided statistical data.

37. (New) The article of claim 36, wherein the access point is operated by a network service

38. (New) The article of claim 36, wherein the access point comprises a wireless access point (WAP).

39. (New) The article of claim 38, wherein the WAP comprises a base station.

40. (New) The article of claim 39, wherein the instructions, if further executed, determine a payment for an account associated with an operator of the base station.

41. (New) The article of claim 39, wherein the base station comprises a substantially IEEE standard 802.11 compliant base station.

42. (New) The article of claim 36, wherein the network comprises a wireless local area network (WLAN).

43. (New) The article of claim 36, wherein information about data provided from a server to the to the plurality of user terminals comprises information about data packets received at the access point from a server accessible via the network and forwarded by the access point to at least one wireless user terminal.

44. (New) The article of claim 36, wherein the information about data provided from a server to the to the plurality of user terminals comprises a count of bytes of data received at the access point from the server.

45. (New) The article of claim 43, wherein the information about data packets received at the access point from a server accessible via the network and forwarded by the access point to at least one wireless user terminal comprises a count of bytes of data received at the access point from the server accessible via the network and forwarded by the access point to the wireless user terminal.

46. (New) The article of claim 44, wherein the count of bytes of data received at the access point from the server accessible via the network and forwarded by the access point to the wireless user terminal comprises a count of bytes of data received at the access point from the server accessible via the network and forwarded by the access point using a Media Access Control address associated with the wireless user terminal.